

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as shown below. This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. – 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A remote controller which enables a terminal ~~device~~ to control a remotely-controlled device through a network, the remote controller comprising:

an address storage operable to acquire and store a current changeable address of the remotely-controlled device on the network received by receiving from the remotely-controlled device, device which sends the current changeable address through the network at constant uninterrupted time intervals, and to associate the current changeable address of the remotely-controlled device with a fixed identification number of the remotely-controlled device that is stored in the address memory;

a first communication interface operable to transmit, through the network at constant uninterrupted time intervals to the remotely-controlled device based on the current changeable address stored in the address storage, a status notification request, and operable to receive, from the remotely-controlled device in response to the status notification request, status information indicating a status of the remotely-controlled device;

a status storage operable to store the status information received from the remotely-controlled device; and

a second communication interface operable to transmit the stored status information to the terminal ~~device~~ through the network in response to a status request from the terminal ~~device~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The remote controller according to claim 11,
wherein the first communication interface is operable to transmit the status notification request to the remotely-controlled device when the status request is received from the terminal device.

13. (Previously Presented) The remote controller according to claim 11,
wherein the remotely-controlled device is operable to transmit the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device to the first communication interface upon a change in the status of the remotely-controlled device.

14. (Currently Amended) The remote controller according to claim 11,
wherein the remotely-controlled device is operable to detect a status of a subject to be controlled in the remotely-controlled device, and to transmit, to the terminal device in response to the status notification request, the detected status as the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device.

15. (Previously Presented) A remote control method of controlling a remotely-controlled device through a network, the method comprising:
acquiring and storing a current changeable address of the remotely-controlled device on the network received ~~by receiving~~ from the remotely-controlled device, which sends ~~device~~ ~~which send~~ the current changeable address through the network at constant uninterrupted time intervals, and associating the current changeable address of the remotely-controlled device with a

fixed identification number of the remotely-controlled device that is stored in the address memory;

transmitting, through the network at constant uninterrupted time intervals to the remotely-controlled device based on the stored current changeable address, a status notification request;
receiving, from the remotely-controlled device in response to the status notification request, status information indicating a status of the remotely-controlled device;
storing the status information received from the remotely-controlled device; and
transmitting the stored status information to a terminal ~~device~~ through the network in response to a status request from the terminal ~~device~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The remote control method according to claim 15,
wherein the status notification request is transmitted to the remotely-controlled device when the status request is received from the terminal ~~device~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The remote control method according to claim 15,
wherein the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device is transmitted to the terminal ~~device~~ upon a change in status of the remotely-controlled device.

18. (Currently Amended) The remote control method according to claim 15, further comprising:
detecting a status of a subject to be controlled in the remote-controlled device; and
transmitting, to the terminal ~~device~~ in response to the status notification request, the detected status as the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device.

19. (New) The remote controller according to claim 11, wherein
the constant uninterrupted time intervals at which the remotely-controlled device sends
the current changeable address through the network are different from the constant uninterrupted
time intervals at which the first communication interface transmits the status notification request
through the network.

20. (New) The remote control method according to claim 15, wherein
the constant uninterrupted time intervals at which the remotely-controlled device sends
the current changeable address through the network are different from the constant uninterrupted
time intervals at which the status notification request is transmitted through the network.